Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

IVERSON, JOHN B. 1982. *Terrapene coahuila.*

Terrapene coahuila Schmidt and Owens Coahuila box turtle

Terrapene coahuila Schmidt and Owens, 1944:101. Type-locality, "Cuatro Cienegas, Coahuila," Mexico. Holotype, Field Museum Natur. Hist. 41234, an adult male, collected 23 August 1939 by Ernest G. Marsh, Jr. (examined by author).
Terrapene ornata coahuila: Mertens and Wermuth, 1955:370.
Terrapene coahuilae: Milstead, 1960:80.
Terrapene coahulia: Milstead, 1969:4.
Terapene coahuila: Nietzke, 1973:371.
Terrepene coahuilae: Morafka, 1977:147, 155.
Terrepene coahuila: Morafka, 1977:258.

• CONTENT. *Terrapene coahuila* is a monotypic species.

• DEFINITION. Adult females reach at least 159 mm in carapace length (mean, 101 mm), whereas males reach at least 168 mm (mean, 109 mm). The relatively low, narrow and elongate adult carapace is dark brown and slightly unicarinate. That of juveniles contains fine yellow vermiculations. The first vertebral scute is basically wedge-shaped (not straight-sided). The plastron is yellow, sometimes with dark seams, and is not posteriorly emarginate. A well developed plastral hinge separates the abdominal and pectoral scutes at the level of the 5th marginal scutes. The interpectoral seam length averages 30% of the anterior plastral lobe length. The interhumeral seam is relatively long, averaging 20% of the anterior plastral lobe length. The interfemoral seam is relatively short, averaging 11% of the posterior plastral lobe length. The posterior plastral lobe is deeply concave in adult males, flat or convex in adult females. The head is light to dark gray brown (often darkly marbled) in adults; small juveniles possess a yellowish postocular stripe. The iris is brown with yellow flecks in adult males, and yellow with brown flecks in adult females. The skin on the limbs is generally yellowish with each scale darkly bordered. Four digits are present on the pes, and the medial toe of the male does not rotate inward. The skull has a broad, heavy postorbital bar.

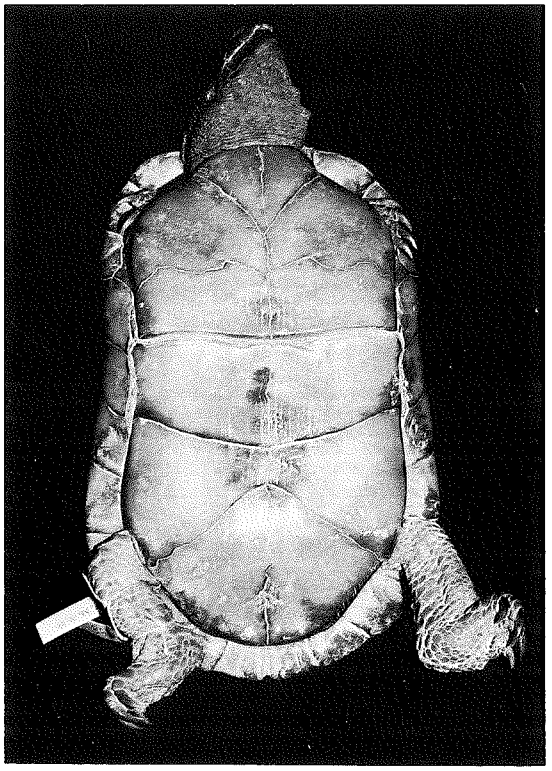

FIGURE. Holotype of *Terrapene coahuila* (FMNH 41234; plastral view).

• DESCRIPTIONS. General descriptions of the adult are in Schmidt and Owens (1944), Milstead (1969), Brown (1971, 1974), Pritchard (1967, 1979), Smith and Smith (1980). Detailed anatomical descriptions include morphometrics (Brown, 1971), shell biomechanics (Bramble, 1974), skull (McDowell, 1964), choanae (Parsons, 1968), cloacal bursae (Smith and James, 1958; Williams et al., 1960), rostral pores (Winokur and Legler, 1974), mental glands (Winokur and Legler, 1975), penis (Zug, 1966), and locomotor apparatus (Zug, 1971).

• ILLUSTRATIONS. Color photographs of the adult are in Pritchard (1967, 1979), and on the cover of *Turtles. The International Turtle and Tortoise Magazine*, 1(1), Fall 1978; black and white photographs are in Webb et al. (1963; turtles and habitats), Milstead (1969), Collins (1970), Brown (1971; dorsal scale color pattern), Murphy (1973), Bramble (1974; bony shell only), Brown (1974; turtles and habitats), and Smith and Smith (1980).

• DISTRIBUTION. *Terrapene coahuila* occurs only in the Cuatro Cienegas Basin of central Coahuila, Mexico.

• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. General accounts of the biology of *Terrapene coahuila* are in Webb et al. (1963), Brown (1974), and Pritchard (1979). Additional important references are: ecology (Brown, 1966), habitat (Minckley, 1969; Webb et al., 1963), predators (Minckley, 1966), diet (Hulse, 1974), longevity (Bowler, 1977), size dimorphism (Berry and Shine, 1980), shell proportions (Patterson, 1973), general behavior (Carpenter and Ferguson, 1977), captive behavior (Williams, 1960), depth preception (Ashe et al., 1975), buoyancy (Williams and Han, 1964), biogeography (Morafka, 1977), phylogeny (Milstead, 1969; Auffenberg, 1958; Auffenberg and Milstead, 1965; Gillette, 1974; Milstead, 1960, 1967, 1969; Milstead and Tinkle, 1967), relationship to *Terrapene carolina* (Milstead, 1967), zoo holdings (Lucas and Biegler, 1970; Slavens, 1976; Wermuth, 1976), and endangered status (Behler, 1971).

• ETYMOLOGY. The name *coahuila* is a toponym referring to the Mexican state in which the species occurs.

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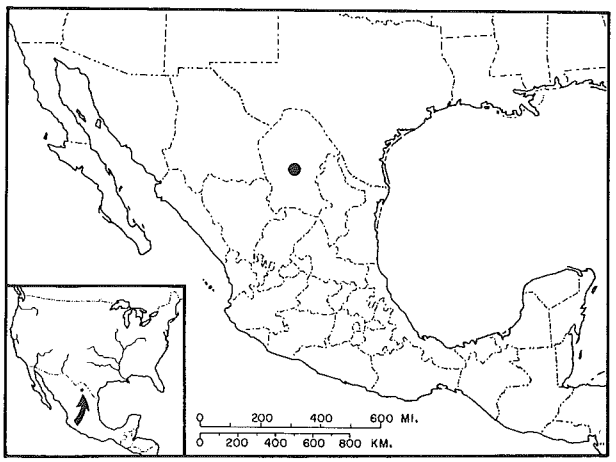

MAP. Solid circle marks type-locality and known range.

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